

that there was "strong evidence of a sustained faith pervading and regulating their mode of life." Now the court also ruled that if it is simply a choice to reject social values of the time based on a philosophical or personal basis or bias rather than on a religious belief, then this choice would not rise to the level of first amendment protection, to the requirements of the freedom of religion clause of the first amendment. And it is our feeling that the exception we are creating here should apply only to people that have comparably sincerely based religious beliefs. Now the court went on to indicate that they were not in that case dealing with a way of life or a mode of education by a group claiming to have recently discovered some progressive or more enlightened process for rearing children for modern life. Similarly, with this amendment we are indicating that people of that view are not entitled to take advantage of the exception we are creating in LB 928. Instead, this exception is intended to be available to groups that have convincingly demonstrated the sincerity of their religious beliefs, the interrelationship of that belief for their mode of life, the vital role that belief in daily conduct plays in the continued survival of their religious organization and under those circumstances may we waive the current certification of teachers' requirements. Now, finally, the showing of sincerely held religious belief was made only after the group had established their long history of a successful and selfsufficient segment of society and one that had survived for a good deal of time as an identifiable religious sect. Now I think several of us believe that it is extremely important that we make it clear in this legislation that we are allowing an exception for the Christian schools for those who have a sincerely held religious belief as the bill with this amendment would read and not for individuals who have recently arrived at a philosophical or personal basis rather than having had such a sincerely held religious belief. Now as an incidental matter this would mean that some of the individuals who would choose to educate their children at home would not be able to avail themselves of this exception. However, let me hasten to point out that any individual who would choose to educate their child at home could avail themselves of this exception provided they meet the standard of a sincerely